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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

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SUBJECT Curriculum and Training Schedule of the  
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General Information on Pilot Officers' Training Center

1. 299 candidates were admitted to the Pilot Officers' Training Center at Dolny Kubin after passing a rigid physical and mental examination.

The course was to last nine months, i.e., 1 October 1952 until 20 June 1953; however, on 3 June 1953, the school was closed without permitting the students to take their final examinations or continue the training elsewhere and transferred to Hajniky (N. 48-37, E 19-09) with all equipment (see page 4).

Daily Schedule

0600 - Reveille

0600 - 0605 - Get dressed

0605 - 0625 - Physical exercise

0625 - 0645 - Personal clean-up

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- 0645 - 0710 - Breakfast
- 0710 - 0720 - Inspection in ranks
- 0720 - 1230 - Classes
- 1230 - 1315 - Lunch
- 1315 - 1500 - Compulsory nap
- 1500 - 1600 - Chemical-warfare instruction with or without masks in level terrain or in mountains.
- 1600 - 1800 - Study period, consultation hour.
- 1800 - 1830 - Supper
- 1830 - 1900 - Free period
- 1900 - 1945 - Organized leisure period (discussions, choir practice, etc.)
- 1945 - 2130 - Compulsory study period
- 2130 - 2215 - Personal clean-up
- 2215 - 2300 - Period for various announcements for the day.
- 2300 - Lights out

#### Types of Classes

Basic courses (zakladni predmety) were as follows:

- a. Political Preparation (politicka priprava) given from October until December 1952, five hours a week. Textbooks: Vasavova komunisticka strana bolševiku - VKS (All-Union Communist Party of Bolsheviks); Komunisticka strana Československa - KSC (Czechoslovak Communist Party). Course consisted mostly of lectures, daily oral and written quizzes, and major written examination at the end of each month. Two officers taught the course.
- b. Tactical Preparation (takticka priprava). Length of course, October 1952 to June 1953, 10 hours a week; two officer instructors, Remes (fnu) and 1st Lt. Ptacnik (fnu). Course consisted of defense and attack drills, military discipline, and close-order drills. Each student was given a small-format booklet called "polni rad" (Field Manual), and "ovicebni rad" (Training Manual). Tactical preparation took place outside for the most part. Examinations were oral, written, and practical, and took place once in two weeks.
- c. Physical Preparation (telesna priprava). Length of course, December 1952 to January 1953, 10 hours a week; from January 1953 to June 1953, five hours a week; no textbooks; practical examinations once a month. Course consisted of demonstrative lectures on gymnastic apparatuses, climbing two-meter-high walls with a rifle, run with rifle for three to four kilometers, horizontal bar, jumping from stairs, etc.
- d. Physics; four hours a week from October until December 1952; daily oral quizzes; written examinations once a month and major written examinations (statics, kinetics, electricity, dynamics, laws of Archimedes, etc.).   they had no standard textbook for this course, but used five mimeographed lectures with practical exercises. One junior and one senior lieutenant conducted the course.

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- e. Russian Language, taught three times a week from October until December 1952 and twice a week from January until June 1953. NCO Lojkovic (fnu) was the instructor. There were oral quizzes daily and written examinations every month.
- f. Geography, six hours a week from October to December 1952; taught by an NCO; mimeographed lectures were substituted for textbooks.
- g. Mathematics, six hours a week from October to December 1952; taught by an NCO; consisted of algebra and trigonometry; written examinations were given once a week.

4. Technical subjects were as follows:

- a. Parachute Landing Falls Training (paravyovik), two hours a week from January until June 1953. Students first received six hours of theoretical lectures and the rest of the course consisted of practical exercises in the open, such as jumping from a terraced bank which had several steps, the highest being 1.5 m. high. The course was taught by an experienced parachutist whose name was unknown to source.
- b. Radio Communications (radiospojeni), four hours a week from January to June 1953; taught by one first lieutenant; oral and written examinations.
- c. Firing with light and heavy machine guns, four hours theoretical and two hours of practical exercises a week plus one entire afternoon (once in three weeks) of fire and live ammunition. Exercises consisted of firing from distances of 50 to 300 m. For the 50-m. distance students had to register 21 hits. From longer distances 15 hits were required. Examinations were written and practical. One textbook was used: Ovisebni rad Ceskoslovenske branne moci (Training Manual of Czechoslovak Armed Forces). There was one officer instructor.
- d. Battle Preparedness (bojeva priprava), six hours a week; training took place in surrounding forests at night or during the day. Training consisted of position warfare (pozicni valka), defense attack, partisan way of conducting war (demolition of bridges, sudden attack on division or regiment, etc.), and hand-to-hand fighting. This course was taught by one instructor. The textbook used was Bojovy rad Ceskoslovenske branne moci (Battle Manual of Czechoslovak Armed Forces).
- e. Army - Air Force Orientation Course, four hours a week from January until June 1953; consisted of lectures on the nature and organization of different branches of the Army and Air Force, types of weapons, etc. No textbook was used. Oral and written examinations were held once a month. There were three instructors.
- f. Weapons; four hours a week; taught by one officer; oral and written examinations. Source recalled that they had manuals for each type of weapon.
- g. Russian Language; two hours a week; one NCO instructor.
- h. Chemical Warfare (chemicka priprava); two hours a week; one NCO instructor; theoretical and practical exercises. Practical exercises consisted of walking and running in gas masks through contaminated and fogged areas.
- i. Aviation Geography; two hours a week; one pilot-instructor; daily oral quizzes and written examinations once a month.

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- j. Topography, four hours a week, one pilot instructor. The textbook used was Vojenska topografie (Military Topography); there were daily quizzes and written examinations were given once a month.
- k. Political Preparation; four hours a week from January until June 1953.
- l. Aircraft Engines (letecke motory); four hours a week from January until June 1953; theoretical and demonstrative lectures on all parts of an engine; engine's life span, phase of production of parts. The textbook used was Letecke motory. One officer-technician conducted the course. Oral and written examinations were given.
- m. Aircraft; three hours a week; one pilot-instructor; daily oral quizzes and written examinations once a month; held from January until June 1953. Course consisted of theoretical and demonstrative instructions on the construction and type of aircraft.
- n. Meteorology; two hours a week; one officer-instructor; oral and written quizzes; held from January until June 1953. The textbook used was Letecka meteorologie (Aerial meteorology).
- o. Theory of Flying; four hours a week; two pilot-instructors; no textbooks; daily oral and written quizzes.
- p. Navigation; four hours a week; one pilot-instructor; names of textbooks unknown [redacted] daily oral quizzes and monthly written examinations; held from January until June 1953.

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#### Final Examination

- 5. As stated earlier in the report, students were not allowed to take final examinations in the course because school was discontinued on 3 June 1953. No one was told why the school was closed just 20 days before the end of the course. An official order from the Air Force Headquarters in Prague was read to the entire student body informing them that the school was discontinued and students were to be placed in the Aircraft Technician School in Liptovsky Svaty Mikulas (N 49-05, E 19-37). All students were sent to Liptovsky Svaty Mikulas in order to get acquainted with the surroundings and teaching methods. About 90% of students refused to enter the school since they were not allowed to continue pilot training somewhere else and if they did accept training at Liptovsky Svaty Mikulas they would have to sign up for six more years of service. Only about 30 students went there voluntarily and the rest were sent out within three days to various airfield battalions throughout Czechoslovakia. [redacted] 15 [redacted] went to Presov (N 49-02, E 21-19) Airfield to the 22nd Airfield Battalion.

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#### Flying Training

- 6. From April until the end of May 1953, students practiced taxiing in the court yard of the Pilot Training Center.<sup>2</sup> They used C-106 and C-5 two-place trainers. They practiced twice a week for eight to 10 minutes with an instructor. During the entire course students never practiced flying in the air. Before taxiing, students were taught how to check the engine and how to start it. Instructors kept notes on the students.

#### Instructors

- 7. Captain Janousek (fnu), Captain Miklovic (fnu), 1st Lt. Polakovic (fnu), navigator, and Jr. Lt. Malek (fnu), and many others whose names source could not recall were instructors.

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Instructors' Ability

8. [ ] all instructors were very capable and experienced teachers and real experts in their fields. Libraries and laboratories were very well equipped with necessary teaching material. 50X1

Training Schools in Czechoslovakia

9. [ ] the following Military Training Schools in Czechoslovakia [ ] existed in December 1954: 50X1
- a. Advanced Pilot Training School in Hajniky which, until July 1953, had been located in Presov.
  - b. Elementary Pilot Training School in Olomouc.
  - c. Pilot Training School in Sternberk (N 49-44, E 17-18).
  - d. Pilot Training School in Prostějov (N 49-27, E 17-07).
  - e. Combat Training Schools in Mlada, Line (N 49-42, E 13-16), Zatec (N 50-20, E 13-33), and Ceske Budejovice.
  - f. Advanced Pilot Training School in Hradecny (N 50-37, E 14-42).
  - g. Navigation Training School in Chrudim (N 49-57, E 15-48).
  - h. Navigation Training School in Liberec (N 50-47, E 15-03).

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